

ministerial Group. Besides clearance of outstanding arrears pertaining to Badarpur TPS is pressed with the relevant authorities.

[English]

Expansion of Services by Insurance Sector

*413. SHRI SURESH KALMADI :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have proposed two new schemes in the Insurance sector aimed at benefitting middle classes and the poor;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the details of the proposal being considered for revamping of General Insurance Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) An announcement regarding introduction of two new schemes viz. 'Jeevan Suraksha' by LIC and 'Jan Arogya' by GIC was made in the Budget speech for 1996-97. In pursuance of that announcement, 'Jan Arogya' has been introduced w.e.f. 12th August, 1996 while 'Jeevan Suraksha' has been introduced w.e.f. 15th August, 1996.

The salient features of the two Schemes are as under

Jeevan Suraksha :

The Scheme is intended to help individuals to provide for retirement income by facilitating saving during their working career. On survival of the life assured to the vesting age and subject to the payment of all the premiums during the premium paying term, a normal pension during the life time of the life assured or commutation of 25% of the normal pension for a lumpsum and a balance of 75% of the normal pension will be payable during the life time of the life assured. In the event of death of the life assured during the period of saving, the surviving spouse will be entitled to 50% pension which the assured would have been entitled to, had he paid all premiums and survived upto the vesting age. The minimum age at entry will be 30 years and the maximum age at entry will be 60 years.

Jan Arogya :

The Scheme is primarily meant for the larger segment of the population who can not afford the high

cost of medical treatment. The limit of cover per person is Rs. 5,000/- per annum. The premium for an adult individual is Rs. 70/- upto 45 years of age.

Persons beyond 45 years and upto 70 years can also be covered with slightly higher premium. A family of four comprising husband, wife and two children below the age of 25 can be covered for Rs. 5,000/- per head by paying annually a sum of Rs. 240/- only. The cover provides for reimbursement of medical expenses incurred by an individual towards hospitalisation/domiciliary hospitalisation for any illness, injury or disease contracted or sustained during the period of insurance.

(c) The common Minimum Programme (CMP) of the Government envisages restructuring of insurance industry in the light of the experience gained in the working of the banking sector. The Interim Insurance Regulatory Authority set up by the Government has been entrusted with the task of dealing with all matters relating to promotion and orderly growth of the insurance market and proposing comprehensive legislation for this purpose.

Quality Silk Centre

*414. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :
DR. T. SUBBARAM REDDY :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, West Bengal and Jammu and Kashmir have been asked to take up time-bound programme for the setting up of quality silk centres in the areas having large concentration of silk farmers and reeters;

(b) if so, how many States have so far decided to modernise its units;

(c) whether any Central assistance has been provided to these States in the regard; and

(d) if so, the extent of assistance provided?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA) : (a) to (d) The States of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, West Bengal and Jammu & Kashmir, which are the implementing agencies of the National Sericultural Project in sericulturally traditional States, propose to take up modernisation programmes for strengthening of infrastructure for quality upgradation.

The above programmes are proposed to be taken